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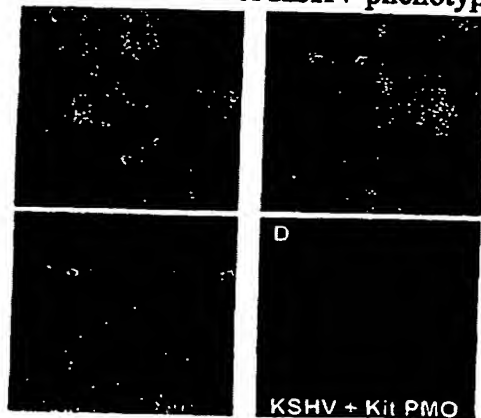
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(54) Title: **METHODS OF TREATMENT AND DIAGNOSIS OF KAPOSI'S SARCOMA (KS) AND KS RELATED DISEASES**

PMO inhibition of KSHV phenotype



(57) Abstract: The present invention uses gene expression profiling, and gene silencing methods to identify and provide a plurality of 'validated' KSHV-induced cellular gene sequences and pathways useful as targets for modulation of KSHV-mediated effects on cellular proliferation and phenotype (e.g., cancer) associated with latent and lytic phases of the Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpesvirus (KSHV; Human herpesvirus 8; HHV8) life cycle. Particular embodiments provide therapeutic compositions, and methods for modulation of KSHV infection or KSHV-mediated effects on cellular proliferation and phenotype, comprising inhibition of KSHV-induced gene sequences. Additional embodiments provide screening assays for compounds useful to modulate KSHV infection or KSHV-mediated effects on cellular proliferation and phenotype. Further embodiments provide diagnostic and/or prognostic assays for KSHV infection.

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